MINUTES

—OF THE—

Bear Creek Primitive Baptist Association

SPRING AND FALL SESSIONS

Compiled and Distributed by
J. W. JONES, Clerk and Treasurer
Peachland, N. C.

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2014

https://archive.org/details/minutesofbearcre100orig

MINUTES

—OF THE—

Bear Creek Primitive Baptist Association

SPRING AND FALL SESSIONS

Compiled and Distributed by
J. W. JONES, Clerk and Treasurer
Peachland, N. C.

☞Forty-Eighth Spring Session, held with the church at Pleasant Hill, Iredell County, North Carolina, on Saturday before 1st Sunday in May, 1932. Also of the 100th Annual or Fall Session, held with the church at Liberty, Union County, North Carolina, on Saturday before first Sunday in October, 1932.

Bear Creek Primitive Baptist Association

PROCEEDINGS—SPRING SESSION

Pleasant Hill Church, Iredell County, N. C.
April 30th, 1932

Assembled at stand in grove at 11 o'clock A. M., and introductory sermon preached by Elder O. Broom, followed by Elder D. P. Broadway. Intermission one hour for dinner.

At 1 o'clock p. m. The ministers and messengers present convened in the house. Praise and prayer by Elder W. B. Stadler. Then in the absence of Elder Edwards, the Moderator, Elder Oscar Broom was called & acted as temporary Moderator.

1. Called for the letters from the several churches. These handed in and read by brother V. P. Whitley, excepting the letters from Concord, Howard's Chapel, New Zion and Deese Chapel, all of whose letters were tabled.

2. Re-organized by electing Elder Oscar Broom, Moderator, and J. W. Jones, Clerk.

3. Invited corresponding messengers from sister Associations to seats. Present and seated as follows: From Salem, brother W. L. Teague. From Abbott's Creek, Elder D P Broadway and brothers C. B. Owen and R F Strange. From Little River, Elder E F Pearce. From Upper Country Line, Eld. T. A. Stanfield. From Mayo, Elders W B Stadler and J. A. Fagg.

4. Invited visiting brethren present from sister Associations to seats. The following seated: From Salem, Bros. B. C. Clinard and G. F. Stroud. From Abbott's Creek, Bros. Walter Wilson and A. C. Vanhoy.

5. Appointed as our Arrangement Committee: Brethren W. H. Curlee, Crawford Thomas and L. B. Lee, together with moderator and clerk.

6. Appointed brother Elmon Hatley with moderator and clerk to arrange the preaching services during the meeting.

7. Adjourned to 9:30 Monday morning Benediction by the moderator. Preaching at stand Saturday p. m. by Bros. F. E. Huneycutt, T. A. Stanfield and W. B. Stadler.

SUNDAY SERVICES, MAY 1st.

Service commenced at the stand at ten o'clock a. m.

First. By brother James T. Jones from 1st to 8th verses of 2nd chapter of Acts, followed by Bro. F. E. Huneycutt

from 8th verse of 5th chapter of Matthew, followed by Elder T. A. Stanfield from 5th verse of 1st chapter of first Peter. Intermission one hour for dinner. Then preaching by Elder W. B. Stadler from no special text, followed by Elder E. L. Pearce from these words, "The night cometh when no man can work." Closed by Elder Broom in short but good discourse. The preaching all good, sound and well received. These services were attended by a large crowd and the best of order prevailed.

On account of previous appointments elsewhere, Elder Stanfield and Stadler went away Sunday evening.

MONDAY MORNING, MAY 2

Re-convened in the house at 9:30 a. m. pursuant to adjournment. Praise and prayer by Elder J. A. Fagg of Mayo Association.

8. Called on arrangement committee to report. Report read and adopted. Renewed invitation to visitors to seats.

9. Called roll of messengers names and noted absentees, (omitted reading Rules of Decorum)

10. Called on our corresponding messengers to sister Associations to report. No reports at this session.

11. Called on corresponding messengers present from sister Associations to report. Elder J A Fagg of Mayo made favorable report & invited us to visit them. Eld. E F Pearce of Little River also made good report and desires to continue our pleasant correspondence. Elder D P Broadway made same kind of report from Abbotts Creek. Distributed corresponding minutes from Little River, Mill Branch, Roaring River, Abbotts Creek, Zion, Mountain Dist., and White Oak Association.

12. Called on Presbyteries to report. No report.

13. Resolved [unanimously] that we return thanks to God, and this church and friends of the community for kindness and hospitality extended us during this meeting.

14. Read and approved the above minutes & adjourned to time and place mentioned in 1931 minutes. Benediction by Elder J A Fagg.

Preaching at the stand Monday by Elders E F Pearce and J A Fagg. This was a good meeting and the love manifested will long be remembered.

Elder OSCAR BROOM, Moderator

J. W. JONES, Clerk Route Monroe, N. C.
Peachland, N. C.

Messengers—Spring Session 1932

Bear Creek--J P Whitley, D C Page, H L Almond
Bethany--By letter
Concord--Letter tabled
Crooked Creek--D L Williams, L W Greene, Ben Hinson
Clark's Grove--Elder J A Eudy, Mack Love, Rob't Lee
Deese Chapel--Letter tabled
Flat Lake--Not represented
High Ridge--J P Rushing, Will A Helms, Brice Thomas
Howard's Chapel--Letter tabled
Herrin's Grove--Maggie Harwell, Tena Howard
Jerusalem--W H Curlee, Crawford Thomas, C C Curlee
Liberty--Elder Oscar Broom, J J Hill, E S Burghes
Liberty Hill--J T Crisco, F E Huneycutt, V P Whitley
Lawyer's Spring--J W Jones, Roy Huneycutt, N S Jones
Meadow Creek-Eli Hopkins,* H A Williams,* J J Barbee*
Mountain Creek--W P Almond, Sister Della Mantooth
New Zion--Letter tabled
Pleasant Hill--L B Lee, H P Cashion, Sam Rimmer
Philadelphia--Foster Beam,* J N Jones,* W S Davis*
Running Creek--R F Almond, E M Hatley, W M Almond
Smith's Grove--Jona Morton, Walter Greene, Adolphus Whitley

Absentees marked thus *

Bear Creek Primitive Baptist Association
PROCEEDINGS—FALL SESSION 1932

[This being the 100th annual session]

Assembled at the stand in grove at 11 o'clock a. m. and after praise and prayer by Elder J A Eudy, the introductory sermon was delivered by Elder W C Edwards. Text, 7th verse of 20th chap. of Second Kings. Then intermission one hour. At 1:30 p.m. Ministers and messengers convened in the house. Praise and prayer conducted by Elder J A Bowen of Georgia. Then proceeded in regular order, with Elder Broom presiding.

1. Called for the letters from the several churches. Letters handed in and read by brethren V P Whitley and H L Almond. (The letter from Pleasant Hill announced their withdrawal. No cause or reason for so doing given. Deese Chapel disbanded and New Zion left off.) Messengers from all the other churches seated.
2. By motion, elected Elder W C Edwards, Moderator and J W Jones, Clerk.
3. Appointed Elder Oscar Broom and brother J J Hill to act with the Clerk as committee to arrange preaching services during the meeting.
4. Invited messengers from sister Associations to seats Elder L T Tucker of Salem present and seated. Concerning conditions now in Abbotts Creek, we await developments.
5. Invited visiting brethren from sister Associations to seats. Elder J A Bowen of Collins, Georgia, in Lotts Creek Asssociation present and seated. Deacon Sanders Dennis of Salem seated. Elder S G Caudill of Mountain Creek present and seated. Received and distributed corresponding minutes from Abbotts Creek, Fisher's River, Upper and Lower Country Line Associations. Distributed the others at last May, Spring session.
6. Appointed as our arrangement committee, brethren D. C Page, W P Almond and H B Almond with Moderator and clerk.
7. Appointed as our finance committe, brethren C C Curlee, C B Thomas and H M Greene.
8. Adjourned to 9:30 Monday morning, Benediction by the moderator.

Preaching services at the stand by Elders F E Huneycutt, L T Tucker and J. A. Bowen.

SUNDAY SERVICES, Oct. 2nd

Song and prayer service at 10 a. m. Then preaching by Elder S G Caudill from 6 verse of 6 chap. of Romans, followed by Elder J A Bowen from 25th verse of 1st chapter of James.

Intermission one hour for dinner.

Near 1 p. m. Again assembled around the stand, and Elder L T Tucker preached. His text was 9th verse of 12th of 2nd Corinthians, followed by Elder J A Eudy from first verse of 5th chapter of Isaiah, and closed by Elder W C Edwards from 6th verse of 87th Psalm. The ministers all seemed to be blessed with the spirit to follow the command of our Saviour to Peter, "To feed my sheep and feed my lambs."

MONDAY MORNING, Oct. 3rd

Re-convened in the house pursuant to adjournment at 9:30 a. m. Praise and prayer by Elder L T Tucker.

9. Called on arrangement committee to report. Report adopted.

10. Called roll of messengers names and noted absentees. [Omitted reading Rules of Decorum.]

11. Called on our messengers to sister Associations to report. No reports made, and the brethren excused.

12. Called on messengers present from sister Associations to report. Elder L T Tucker reported for Salem Association. Also called on visiting brethren from sister Associations to report. Elder J A Bowen of Lotts Creek of Georgia made pleasant response and spoke words of encouragement.

13. Called on Presbyteries to report. The Clerk reported that himself and Elders J A Eudy, Oscar Broom and A F Nance and several deacons formed a Presbytery on Saturday before 4th Sunday in May, 1932, at Liberty Hill church, and ordained brother F E Huneycutt to the full work of the gospel ministry. Also that Elders J A Eudy and A F Nance, with some deacons,

formed a Presbytery at Mountain Creek on Saturday before 3rd Sunday in December, 1931, and ordained brother W P Almond a deacon.

14. That we continue correspondence with the following sister Associations: To Mill Branch Elder W C Edwards and brother N S Jones and minutes. To Little River.. Elder W C Edwards, J C Griffin and minutes, and that any of our brothren who may attend any of the following Associations report and represent us, and we also send them file of minutes, to wit: Fisher's River, Roaring River, Mayo, Salem, Mountain District, Stanton River, Upper and Lower Country Line, Zion, St. Clair's Bottom & White Oak and that we request exchange of minutes with Lotts Creek of Georgia.

15. That our next Spring session convene with the church at Meadow Creek, Stanly county, North Carolina, and commence on Saturday before first Sunday in May 1933 and that Elder F E Huneycutt preach the introductory sermon at 11 o'clock a. m.. and that Elder Oscar Broom be his alternate, and that the annual fall session be held with the church at High Ridge, Union county, N. C., commencing on Saturday before 1st Sunday in October 1933, and that Elder J A Eudy preach the introductory sermon at 11 o'clock a. m. with Elder W C Edwards his alternate.

16. Called on Treasurer to report. Report shows no funds on hand from last year.

17. Finance reported as follows: Sent up by the churches this year for minutes and Associational expenses $65.60.
Voluntary contributions by brethren and friends 22.65

Total funds ---------- $88.25

18. That surplus funds be given to ministers attending this session of our Association.

19. That the Clerk serve as Treasurer also, and superintend the printing and distribution as usual among our churches and corresponding Associations 1100 copies of these minutes, and have $12 for his services.

20. That certain available historical information as arranged by the Clerk be printed in these minutes,

21. Resolved that we return our humble thanks to God for His mercy and sustaining grace to us and also we extend sincere thanks and appreciation to this church and friends for their kind hospitality during this meeting.

22. Above minutes read and approved and adjourned in order to times and places above mentioned in these minutes.

Elder W C EDWARDS, Moderator, Wingate, N C

J W JONES, Clerk and Treas. Peachland, N. C.

MESSENGERS—FALL SESSION 1932

Bear Creek..D C Page, H L Almond, J P Whitley
Bethany..Letter and contribution
Concord P M Hartsell*. W M Coley*, D M Whitley*
Clark's Grove .W E Williams, J A Jones, Mack Love
Crooked Creek..J B Hinson, L W Greene, D L Williams
Flat Lake..O F Haywood,* C F Dunn,* C C Hall*
High Ridge. Elder W C Edwards,J P Rushing,Brice Thomas
Howard's Chapel..P A Howard,* Arch Carpenter*
J J Harward*
Herrin's Grove..John Almond, Frank Herrin, Adam Furr*
Jerusalem..C C Curlee, C B Thomas. W A Helms
Liberty J J Hill, Crawford Helms, Elder Oscar Broom
Liberty Hill..V P Whitley, J T Crisco, H J Whitley
Lawyer's Spring J W Jones, Roy Huneycutt, N S Jones
Meadow Creek .Eli Hopkins, H A Williams, J J Barbee
Mountain Creek .W P Almond, sister Della Mantooth
Philadelphia Foster Beam, J N Jones
Running Creek. E M Hatley,R F Almond,*W M Almond*
Smith's Grove..M F Coble, R R Whitley,* Shepherd
Taylor*

Absentees marked thus *

Preaching at the stand on Monday by Elders L T Tucker, Oscar Broom and J A Bowen.

Annual Table For 1932 Statistics

CHURCHES	By experience and baptism	By letter or relation	Restored	Dismissed by letter	Excluded	Deceased	Membership	Contributions
Bear Creek	1					2	29	$3 00
Bethany							2	1 00
Concord	1		1		1	1	20	1 00
Clark's Grove	4		2				25	2 00
Crooked Creek	3						14	3 85
Flat Lake							10	1 25
High Ridge							23	4 25
Howard's Chapel				1		1	13	1 20
Herrin's Grove	4						10	1 50
Jerusalem							47	20 50
Liberty						1	17	5 00
Liberty Hill	1		5		2		32	3 00
Lawyer's Spring		4	1				24	5 80
Meadow Creek	2	2				1	19	2 00
Mountain Creek							6	1 50
Philadelphia							14	3 25
Running Creek					3	1	20	2 50
Smith's Grove	4	1		1	1		31	3 00
Totals	20	7	9	2	7	7	356	65 60

Financial Statement For Year 1932

Sent up by the churches for minute and Association expenses	$65 60
Voluntary contributions	22.65
Total funds	$88.25

DISBURSEMENTS

Printing and mailing minutes	$40.00	
Allowance to Clerk	12.00	
Distributed out to ministers	36.25	
Total disbursements	$88.25	$88.25

Leaving no funds on hand.

Churches, Clerks and Their Postoffices 1932

	Communion Sunday
Bear Creek—H L Almond, route 3, Albemarle N C	1st in August
Bethany—Mrs Fannie Safley, route 3. Wadesboro '	3rd in August
Concord—P M Hartsell, 169 Duval St., Concord '	3rd in June
Clark's Grove—G W Barbee, Stanfield '	2nd in July
Crooked Creek—D L Williams, route 1, Unionville '	4th in July
Flat Lake—O F Haywood, Mt. Gilead '	4th in July
High Ridge—Will A Helms, route 4, Marshville '	3rd in July
Howard's Chapel—Arch Carpenter, Norwood '	1st in Sept.
Jerusalem—W E Moore, route 5. Marshville '	2nd in Aug.
Liberty—J S Edwards, Wingate '	1st in July
Liberty Hill—V P Whitley, Oakboro '	4th in Aug.
Meadow Creek—H A Williams, route 2, Stanfield '	3rd in Aug.
Mountain Creek—Mrs Della Mantooth, Albemarle '	3rd in July
Philadelphia—Foster Beam, Ellenboro '	4th in Aug.
Running Creek—Mary Little, Stanfield '	2nd in Aug.
Smith's Grove—Walter Green, route 1, Oakboro '	3rd in Sept.
Herrin's Grove—Maggie Harwell. Mt. Pleasant '	4th in Sept.
Lawyers Spring—5th Sunday nearest 1st in Aug.	

The above also represents regular stated monthly Conference meetings on Saturdays before.

Ministers and Their Address

Elder W C Edwards ---------- Wingate, N. C,
Elder J A Eudy ---------- Oakboro, N.C.
Elder Oscar Broom ---------- Monroe, N.C.
Elder F E Huneycutt ---------- Oakboro, N.C.

Rules of Decorium

1st. A Moderator or chief speaker and clerk may be chosen by the suffrages of the members present.

2nd. The chief speaker or Moderator, shall take his seat at the hour to which the Association shall be adjourned, and after prayer shall proceed to business. It shall be his duty to keep order, and shall be entitled to the same privilege of speech as that of another member. Provided he appoint one of the members to fill the chair during the exercise of such privilege, and in no case shall give a vote unless the Association be equally divided.

3rd. Only one member shall be allowed to speak at a time, who shall arise from his seat and address the chief speaker by appelation of Bro. and while speaking shall confine himself strictly to the subject in question and shall not be interrupted unless he digress from the subject, and shall in no wise reflect on any other speaker, so as to make remarks on his slips and failings and imperfections, but shall fairly give his own views of the case without sophistry or criticism.

4th. No person shall speak more than three times on one subject without leave of the Association.

5th. No person shall absent himself from the Association without leave.

6th. No member of the Association shall address any other member by any other term or name than that of brother.

7th. The chief speaker, or moderator, shall not interrupt one member to prohibit him from speaking until his speech is finished, except he break the Rules of Decorum.

8th. The names of all members of the Association shall be enrolled by the clerk, and be called over as often as the Association may require.

9th. Any member who shall willingly and knowingly break or violate any of the foregoing rules of this Association shall be reproved by the Association in any way they may think proper.

Articles of Faith---Bear Creek Association

Article 1. We believe in one only living and true God, the Father, the Word and the Holy Ghost.

Art. 2. We believe in the man Jesus being the first of all God's creation and the pattern of all God's perfection in nature, providence, grace and glory, and in relative union with the divine word, and thus united with the whole Trinity.

Art. 3rd. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments contain the only written revealed word of God, and are the only perfect rule of faith and practice for God's church in her militant state while here on earth.

Art. 4. We believe in the doctrine of Election, that God chose His church in Christ Jesus before the world began.

Art. 5. We believe in all mankind's apostacy by transgression in Adam the federal head.

Art. 6. We believe in the doctrine of original sin.

Art. 7. We believe in the impotency of man to recover himself from his fallen state by his own free will and ability.

Art. 8. We believe that sinners are justified freely by grace and before God by faith in Christ and his righteousness only.

Art. 9. We believe that God's elect or church shall be called, converted, regenerated and sanctified by the Holy Spirit in due time.

Art. 10. We believe that the saints shall persevere in grace and never really fall away.

Art. 11. We believe that baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of Christ's appointment and that believers alone are the subjects of baptism and the only proper communicants of the supper; that the mode of baptism is immersion, and that neither of the ordinances is to be altered or changed by the inventions or opinions of men.

Art, 12. We believe that no man as a minister has any right to the administration of any of the ordinances of the gospel except such as are sound in the faith of the gospel, regularly baptized, called of God and have come under the imposition of hands by a regular Presbytery.

Art. 13. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, both the just and unjust, and a general judgment.

Art. 14. We believe that the punishment of the wicked will be everlasting and the joys of the righteous eternal

Some Historical Information.

This Association was organized at Bear Creek Church on Saturday before 1st Sunday in October, 1832, by the following churches and their messengers, to wit:

Bear Creek..Elder Ezekiel Morton, M Harward and J Lambert.

Cold Water..N Corzine, A B Corzine and A N Corzine.

Piney Woods Geo. Hodge, Henry Conner & Jesse Hodge

Freedom .Elder J Jones and William Coley.

Meadow Creek..Elder George Little. N Greene and R. Huneycutt.

Thus convened they organized by electing Elder George Little, Moderator, and George Hodge clerk. Some time between 1832 and 1870 the following churches had become members of the Association, namely: High Hill, Jerusalem, Lawyers Spring, Bethlehem, Grove Spring, Lanes Creek. Sandy Run, Liberty Hill. Watson. Jones Hill and Liberty, The Association record from 1832 to 1870 has never yet come into the writer's hands. Therefore there is a vacancy here I regret. The session for 1871 where our record in hand begins, was held at Jerusalem church and Elder N M Clark was then Moderator and A G Morton was clerk. Crooked Creek, Pleasant Hill and Philadelphia churches join ed this Association along about 1882. The session of 1883 was held at Crooked Creek and then is when Elder S C Little began to serve as Moderator. Brother A G Morton was still clerk then, but later brother A F Huneycutt served as clerk for several sessions. Since then our older people have witnessed the organization of several churches in our bounds.

The writer is unable to say when the churches at Cold Water, Piney Woods, Bethlehem, Grove Spring, Gourdvine, Sandy Run and Lanes Creek removed or went down, but over forty years ago, as this is the 40th year of my services as clerk. In the session of 1883 was passed the resolution, with consent of the church where our sessions were being held, to announce door of the church open for members. This is yet continued. At that time, Saturday, and 5th Sunday Union Meetings among the churches was adopted and continued until Spring session were agreed upon. Two sessions one in May and one in October..has been in operation since May 1885. First Spring session was held with Bethany church. This Association has been visited by large number of ministers from the States of South Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia, Georgia, Alabama, Arkansas, Tennessee Texas, Illinois, Maryland, Kentucky and Indiana, besides ministers from all parts of North Carolina. Going back about fifty years the names of some of the Bear Creek ministers include Elders Hosea Preslar, Edmond Davis, William Rushing, Hosea Helms, S C Little, Russell Helms, N M Clark, Calvin Helms, Ellis Williams J F Mills. H M Williams and G L Chaney; all of whom have passed away. Our present ministers are Elders W C Edwards, J A Eudy, Oscar Broom and F E Huneycutt, all of whom are living in the love and fellowship of the Primitive Baptist. During last 50 years Elders Clark, Little, Mills and Edwards have served as Moderator at most of the sessions.

This Association has now the same articles of Faith and Rules of Decorum as adopted when organized in 1832. Our churches have same articles of Faith as you find in our minutes and as we hope practice gospel order and follow Bible Discipline as did our fathers a century ago. Any one, who will investigate, will learn that those who have departed and gone out from us and now since 1927 been trying to claim and use our name, are nothing less than deserters from the 100 year old organization, known as the Bear Creek Primitive Baptist Association. May the dear Lord continue His mercy and preservation. J. W. Jones.

October 1st, 1932